

REMARKS

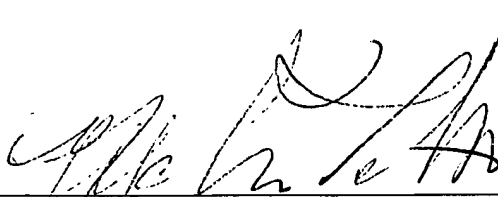
Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner stated that the January 20, 2005 Amendment raised issues of a new search and/or consideration. During a subsequent telephone conversation between the Examiner and the applicant's representative, the Examiner indicated that the claims as amended would appear to distinguish over the cited art in the October 20, 2004 (Hong et al. U.S. Patent 5,834,253, and Walker U.S. Patent 5,7612,124), but the Examiner wanted to do an updated search.

During the telephone call, the Examiner also requested that we indicate specifically where in the patent application there is support for the amendatory language that the cycle primer extension is repeated "at least two times and until" the DNA polymerase extends the primer to a desired length. We note that the specification clearly states throughout that the cycle primer extension is repeated, which would be readily understood to mean "at least two times". It need only not be merely a single cycle extension of DNA, since this would not be sufficient for the purposes of this invention. For instance, see page 5, entire page, especially lines 14-17 and lines 27-30; page 21, lines 12-14, lines 24-26; and Examples 3-7, with multiple cycles each. However, if the Examiner would like to modify the "at least two times and until" language, we invite suggestions.

All of the Examiner's outstanding rejections and objections have been addressed, and the application is believed to be in allowable form. Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions or would like to make suggestions as to claim language, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Marlana K. Titus at (301) 977-7227.

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